

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

219

POSSIBLE PICKETING OF THE FRENCH EMBASSIES AND FRENCH
CONSULATES ON SATURDAY, 22 JUNE 1968

According to a source, the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and the Spring Mobilization Committee are both actively supporting these proposed demonstrations.

The FBI has also reported that Richard LESNICK, a member of the Young Socialist Alliance in Philadelphia, on 18 June 1968, invited SDS members to participate in protest action against witch hunts in France on the 22nd of June. Reportedly the SDS members in Philadelphia indicated little interest.

The Bureau reports that available leaflets in the Philadelphia area indicated the sponsoring organization as the "Ad Hoc Committee to Support French Workers and Students."

The protestors plan to assemble at twelve noon on the north side of City Hall, Philadelphia and proceed past the Air France ticket office on Walnut Street and then to the French consulate on Spruce Street, where it is planned to picket and rally at 1:30 in the afternoon. The purpose of the picketing and rally is to protest the outlawing of Left Wing groups in France. Sponsors appearing on the leaflets include members of the Student Mobilization Committee, W. E. B. DuBois Clubs, Women's Strike for Peace, SDS, Philadelphia Resistance, Socialist Workers Party (SWP), Communist Party, Young Socialist Alliance (YSA), Veterans for Peace, American Friends Service Committee, and Universities Council for Problems for War and Peace.

The FBI has also reported that as of 19 June 1968, a Los Angeles branch of the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) was attempting to obtain support in Los Angeles for a demonstration in front of the French consulate on the 22nd of June. The purpose was said to be to display support for French students regarding recent actions by French police. In Los Angeles, picketing was reported to be planned for 1:00 P.M.

SOURCE: FBI cable dated 20 June 1968, In 34484

AUTHENTICATION: FBI confidential informants who have provided reliable information in the past

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COMMENT

The Young Socialist Alliance was formed in October 1957 in New York City as a national revolutionary Trotskyite youth organization and has been controlled from its inception by the Socialist Workers Party. The YSA is reported to have been founded in response to a need for a nationwide youth organization capable of bringing revolutionary socialist ideas to a new generation.

The Spring Mobilization Committee believed to be identical to the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, was formerly known as the Peace Mobilization Committee. It was to the Spring Mobilization Committee that Martin Luther King, Jr. made his speech at the United Nations on 15 April 1967 in which he indicated that the United States should unilaterally withdraw from Vietnam.

When the idea was conceived by the Peace Mobilization Committee to hold the peace demonstrations on 15 April in New York City, of the 117 individuals in attendance at the conference, 75 were members of the Socialist Workers Party, or its youth group, the Young Socialist Alliance cited above.

With regard to the SDS, attached to this report is a 20 June 1968 FBI report concerning the Students for a Democratic Society, which is considered to be of current interest.

DOOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

On page 1 and 2 of the 19 June Situation Information Report, in an FBI cable of 19 June 1968 concerned in part the following information:

[REDACTED]

voluntarily advised the FBI that alleged shipments of guns, flame throwers and dynamite to a garage located in Washington, D. C. were being handled by [REDACTED] of New York City an alleged Communist sympathizer. [REDACTED] also advised that his source of information was an individual named "BILL" whom he refused to identify further. In addition to the above, [REDACTED] also advised the FBI that BILL had told him that violence would begin when Resurrection City was being dismantled under the supervision of local police and at this point an incident would be provoked with the police in order to implement plans for a well organized takeover of Washington, D. C.

The FBI initiated inquiries to corroborate or refute [REDACTED] information.

The Situation Information Report of 20 June 1968 contained information regarding [REDACTED] and the garage in Washington, D. C.

On 20 June 1968, the FBI advised that as a result of its continuing investigation into the aforementioned matter, it is revealed that [REDACTED] "BILL" was one [REDACTED] (not further identified). The FBI reports that an acquaintance of [REDACTED] described him as a "nut, big mouth and one who is difficult to believe". The FBI also advised that [REDACTED] the individual who is alleged to be making shipments of arms to Washington, D. C., was observed to engage in no activity on [REDACTED] 19 June 1968 other than those connected with the Solidarity Day march.

The FBI has advised that efforts are being made to locate and interview [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The following is the post-Solidarity Day makeup of Resurrection City as reported on 20 June 1968:

- (1) Age configuration: 5% up to age 15, 55% between 15 and 25 years, 25% between 25 and 35 years, and 15% over age 35.
- (2) Ethnic breakdown: 70% Negro, 25% White (primarily hippie types), 2% Puerto Rican, 2% Mexican-Americans, and 1% Indian.
- (3) Organizational Representation: The Chicago Black Panthers, Milwaukee Commandoes, Memphis Invaders, Pennsylvania Untouchables, The Peacemakers and the Resurrection City Rangers.

*The total population was estimated at 600-650 of whom 25% are females. Approximately 150-200 residents are believed to be identified with one or more of the militant organizations listed above.